

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Adam Masia on 6/17/10.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A gaming device comprising:
a plurality of reels controlled by at least one processor, each of said reels including a plurality of symbols;
a plurality of different paylines associated with the reels, the plurality of different paylines including a first payline;
a plurality of different winning symbol combinations adapted to occur on said paylines; and
a plurality of different predetermined modifiers including a first predetermined modifier, each of said different predetermined modifiers being used with a different one of said paylines and having a value determined independent of each of the plurality of different winning symbol combinations, wherein the first predetermined modifier is the same for each play of a game and is being used with the first payline for each play of the game;

wherein the at least one processor is programmed for each play of the game to:

- (a) activate said reels,
- (b) enable a player to wager on a quantity of the paylines,
- (c) determine whether any of the plurality of different winning symbol combinations occur on any of the wagered-on paylines, and

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(d) provide at least one outcome to the player when at least one of the winning symbol combinations occurs on any of the wagered-on paylines, wherein, for each of any winning symbol combinations which occurs on one of the wager-on paylines, the at least one outcome is based on an award associated with said winning symbol combination and is also based on the predetermined modifier being used with the wagered-on payline on which said winning symbol combination occurs.

Claim 2 (original): The gaming device of Claim 1, wherein the paylines include at least one of: a horizontally extending payline, a vertically extending payline, a diagonally extending payline and any combination of these paylines.

Claim 3 (previously presented): The gaming device of Claim 1, wherein each of the paylines is numbered successively.

Claim 4 (previously presented): The gaming device of Claim 3, wherein the values of the different predetermined modifiers increase by a predetermined amount for each of the successively numbered paylines.

Claim 5 (previously presented): The gaming device of Claim 3, wherein the values of the different predetermined modifiers increase sequentially for each of the successively numbered paylines.

Claim 6 (previously presented): The gaming device of Claim 3, wherein the values of the different predetermined modifiers increase by a predetermined factor for each of the successively numbered paylines.

Claim 7 (currently amended): The gaming device of Claim 3, wherein the number of each of the paylines is predetermined.

Claim 8 (previously presented): The gaming device of Claim 1, which includes at least one input device controlled by the at least one processor, wherein the at least one input device is operable to enable the player to input wager amounts for each of the paylines to wager on the quantity of the paylines in a successive order of the paylines.

Claim 9 (currently amended): The gaming device of Claim 8, wherein the outcome includes any awards associated with the winning symbol combinations occurring on the wagered-on paylines modified by the predetermined modifiers respectively being used with said wagered-on paylines and multiplied by the wager amount inputted by the player for said respective wagered-on paylines.

Claim 10 (previously presented): The gaming device of Claim 1, which includes at least one input device controlled by the at least one processor, wherein the at least one input device is operable to enable the player to input a same wager amount for each of the plurality of wagered-on paylines.

Claim 11 (currently amended): The gaming device of Claim 1, which includes at least one input device controlled by the processor, wherein the at least one input device is operable to enable the player to input a same wager amount for all of the paylines.

Claim 12 (currently amended): The gaming device of Claim 1, wherein the outcome includes, for each wagered-on payline on which one of the winning symbol combinations occurs, the award associated with said winning symbol combination modified by the predetermined modifier being used with said wagered-on payline.

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Claim 13 (currently amended): A gaming device comprising:

a plurality of reels controlled by at least one processor, each of said reels including a plurality of symbols;

a plurality of different paylines associated with the reels, the paylines including a first payline;

a plurality of different winning symbol combinations, each winning symbol combination being adapted to occur on any of the paylines; and

a plurality of different predetermined multipliers including a first multiplier, each of said different predetermined multipliers having a value determined independent of each of the plurality of different winning symbol combinations and being used with a different one of said paylines, wherein the first predetermined multiplier is the same for each play of a game and is being used with the first payline for each play of the game;

wherein the at least one processor is programmed for each play of the game to:

- (a) activate said reels,
- (b) enable a player to wager on a quantity of the paylines,
- (c) determine whether any of the plurality of different winning symbol combinations occur on any of the wagered-on paylines, and
- (d) provide at least one outcome to the player when at least one of the winning symbol combinations occurs on any of the wagered-on paylines, wherein, for each of any winning symbol combinations which occurs one of the wagered on paylines, the at least one outcome is based on an award associated with said winning symbol combination, said award being multiplied by the predetermined multiplier being used with the wagered-on payline on which said winning symbol combination occurs.

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Claim 14 (original): The gaming device of Claim 13, wherein the paylines include at least one of: a horizontally extending payline, a vertically extending payline, a diagonally extending payline and any combination of these paylines.

Claim 15 (previously presented): The gaming device of Claim 13, wherein each of the paylines is numbered successively and the value of each of the plurality of different predetermined multipliers is based on the number of the paylines.

Claim 16 (previously presented): The gaming device of Claim 15, wherein the values of the different predetermined multipliers increase by a predetermined amount for each of the successively numbered paylines.

Claim 17 (previously presented): The gaming device of Claim 15, wherein the values of the different predetermined multipliers increase sequentially for each of the successively numbered paylines.

Claim 18 (previously presented): The gaming device of Claim 15, wherein the values of the different predetermined multipliers increase by a predetermined factor for each of the successively numbered paylines.

Claim 19 (currently amended): The gaming device of Claim 15, wherein the number of each of the paylines is predetermined.

Claim 20 (previously presented): The gaming device of Claim 13, which includes at least one input device controlled by the at least one processor, wherein the at least one input device is operable to enable the player to input wager amounts for each of the paylines to wager on the quantity of the paylines in a successive order of the paylines.

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Claim 21 (currently amended): The gaming device of Claim 20, wherein the outcome includes any awards associated with the winning symbol combinations occurring on the wagered-on paylines multiplied by the predetermined multipliers respectively being used with said wagered-on paylines and multiplied by the wager amount inputted by the player for said wagered-on paylines.

Claim 22 (previously presented): The gaming device of Claim 13, which includes at least one input device controlled by the at least one processor, wherein the at least one input device is operable to enable the player to input a same wager amount for each of the plurality of wagered-on paylines.

Claim 23 (previously presented): The gaming device of Claim 13, which includes at least one input device controlled by the at least one processor, wherein the at least one input device is operable to enable the player to input a same wager amount for all of the paylines.

Claim 24 (currently amended): The gaming device of Claim 13, wherein the outcome includes, for each wagered-on payline on which one of the winning symbol combinations occurs, the award associated with said winning symbol combination modified by the multiplier being used with said wagered-on payline.

Claim 25 (currently amended): A method for operating a gaming device, said method comprising:

causing a processor to operate with a display device to:

(a) provide a game including a plurality of different winning symbol combinations; and

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(b) display a plurality of reels and a plurality of different paylines including a first payline to a player, each of said reels including a plurality of symbols, wherein said paylines are associated with said reels, and wherein a different predetermined modifier is being used with each of said different paylines, each of the predetermined modifiers having a value determined independent of each of the plurality of different winning symbol combinations, the predetermined modifiers including a first predetermined modifier, wherein the first predetermined modifier is the same for each play of the game and is being used with the first payline for each play of the game; and

causing the processor to operate with the display device and an input device, for each play of the game, to:

- (i) activate the reels,
- (ii) enable the player to wager on a quantity of the paylines,
- (iii) determine whether any of the plurality of different winning symbol combinations occur on any of the wagered-on paylines, and
- (iv) provide an outcome to the player when at least one of the winning symbol combinations occurs on any of the wagered-on paylines, wherein, for each of any winning symbol combinations which occurs on one of the wagered-on paylines, the outcome is based on an award associated with said winning symbol combination and is also based on the predetermined modifier being used with said wagered-on payline on which said winning symbol combination occurs.

Claim 26 (previously presented): The method of Claim 25, which includes successively numbering the paylines.

Claim 27 (previously presented): The method of Claim 26, which includes increasing the values of the modifiers for each of the successively numbered paylines.

Claim 28 (previously presented): The method of Claim 26, which includes sequentially increasing the values of the predetermined modifiers for each of the successively numbered paylines.

Claim 29 (previously presented): The method of Claim 26, which includes enabling the player to sequentially input a wager amount for each of the successively numbered paylines to wager on the quantity of the paylines.

Claim 30 (previously presented): The method of Claim 25, which includes enabling the player to input a wager amount for each of the paylines in a successive order to wager on the quantity of the paylines.

Claim 31 (previously presented): The method of Claim 25, which includes enabling the player to input a wager amount for each of the quantity of wagered-on paylines.

Claim 32 (original): The method of Claim 25, which includes enabling the player to input a wager amount for all of the paylines.

Claim 33 (currently amended): The method of Claim 25, wherein the outcome includes any awards associated with the winning symbol combinations occurring on the wagered-on paylines modified by the modifiers respectively being used with said wagered-on paylines and multiplied by the wager amount inputted by the player for said respective wagered-on paylines.

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Claim 34 (currently amended): The method of Claim 25, wherein the outcome includes, for each wagered-on payline on which one of the winning symbol combinations occurs, the award associated with said winning symbol combination modified by the predetermined modifier being used with said wagered-on payline.

Claim 35 (original): The method of Claim 25, which includes operating the gaming device through a data network.

Claim 36 (original): The method of Claim 35, wherein the data network is an internet.

Claim 37 (previously presented): The method of Claim 25, wherein computer instructions for implementing steps (a) to (b) are stored in a memory device.

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Claim 38 (currently amended): A method for operating a gaming device, said method comprising the steps of:

causing a processor to operate with a display device to:

- (a) provide a game;
- (b) provide a plurality of different winning symbol combinations adapted to occur on any of a plurality of different paylines; and
- (c) display a plurality of reels and the plurality of different paylines to a player including a first payline, each of said reels including a plurality of symbols, wherein said paylines are associated with said reels, and wherein a different predetermined multiplier is being used with each of said different paylines, the different predetermined multipliers each having a value determined independent of each of the plurality of different winning symbol combinations and including a first multiplier, and wherein the first predetermined multiplier is the same for each play of the game and is being used with the first payline for each play of the game; and

causing the processor to operate with the display device and an input device, for each play of the game, to:

- (i) activate the reels,
- (ii) enable the player to wager on a quantity of the paylines,
- (iii) determine whether any of said plurality of different winning symbol combinations occur on any of the wagered-on paylines, and
- (iv) provide an outcome to the player when at least one of the winning symbol combinations occurs on any of the wagered-on paylines, wherein, for each of any winning symbol combinations which occurs, the outcome is based on an award associated with said winning symbol combination, said award being multiplied by the predetermined multiplier being used with said wagered-on payline on which said winning symbol combination occurs, the predetermined multiplier being independent of said winning symbol combination.

Claim 39 (previously presented): The method of Claim 38, including successively numbering the paylines and setting a value for each of the plurality of different predetermined multipliers based on the successively numbered paylines.

Claim 40 (previously presented): The method of Claim 39, which includes increasing the values of the predetermined multipliers for each of the successively numbered paylines.

Claim 41 (previously presented): The method of Claim 39, which includes sequentially increasing the values of the predetermined multipliers for each of the successively numbered paylines.

Claim 42 (previously presented): The method of Claim 39, which includes enabling the player to sequentially input a wager amount for each of the successively numbered paylines to wager on the quantity of the paylines.

Claim 43 (previously presented): The method of Claim 38, which includes enabling the player to input a wager amount for each of the paylines in a successive order to wager on the quantity of the paylines.

Claim 44 (previously presented): The method of Claim 38, which includes enabling the player to input a wager amount for each of a plurality of the paylines to wager on the quantity of the paylines.

Claim 45 (original): The method of Claim 38, which includes enabling the player to input a wager amount for all of the paylines.

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Claim 46 (currently amended): The method of Claim 38, wherein the outcome includes any awards associated with the winning symbol combinations occurring on the wagered-on paylines modified by the predetermined multipliers respectively being used with said wagered-on paylines and multiplied by the wager amount inputted by the player for said respective wagered-on paylines.

Claim 47 (currently amended): The method of Claim 38, wherein the outcome includes, for each wagered-on payline on which one of the winning symbol combinations occurs, the award associated with said winning symbol combination multiplied by the predetermined multiplier being used with said wagered-on payline.

Claim 48 (original): The method of Claim 38, which includes operating the gaming device through a data network.

Claim 49 (original): The method of Claim 48, wherein the data network is an internet.

Claim 50 (previously presented): The method of Claim 38, wherein computer instructions for implementing steps (a) to (c) are stored in a memory device.

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Claim 51 (currently amended): A gaming device comprising:
a plurality of reels controlled by at least one processor, each of said reels including a plurality of symbols;
a plurality of different paylines associated with the reels, wherein each of the paylines is numbered successively;
a plurality of different winning symbol combinations adapted to occur on said paylines;
a plurality of different predetermined modifiers, each of said different predetermined modifiers being used with a different one of said paylines, wherein the value of each of the plurality of different predetermined modifiers is based on the number of said payline which the modifier is being used with and is determined independent of each of the plurality of different winning symbol combinations; and
at least one total award provable to a player when any winning symbol combination occurs on any of a plurality of wagered-on paylines, wherein, for each of any winning symbol combinations, the total award is based on an award associated with said winning symbol combination, and is also based on the predetermined modifier being used with the wagered-on payline on which said winning symbol combination occurs.

Claim 52 (currently amended): A method for operating a gaming device, said method comprising:
causing a processor to operate with a display device and an input device to:

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(a) display a plurality of reels and a plurality of different paylines to a player, wherein each of the paylines is numbered successively, each of said reels including a plurality of symbols, wherein said paylines are associated with said reels, and wherein a different predetermined modifier is being used with each of said paylines, the value of each of the plurality of different predetermined modifiers being based on the number of said payline and being determined independently from each of a plurality of different winning symbol combinations;

(b) activate the reels;

(c) enable the player to wager on a quantity of the paylines; and

(d) determine whether any one of the plurality of different winning symbol combinations occurs on any of the wagered-on paylines; and

causing the processor to operate with the display device to: provide a total award to the player when at least one of the winning symbol combinations occurs on any of the wagered-on paylines, wherein the total award is based on an award associated with each of any winning symbol combinations and the total award is also based on the predetermined modifier being used with the wagered-on payline on which each of any winning symbol combinations occurs.

Claim 53 (previously presented): The method of Claim 52, which includes operating the gaming device through a data network.

Claim 54 (previously presented): The method of Claim 53, wherein the data network is an internet.

Claim 55 (currently amended): A gaming device comprising:
a plurality of reels controlled by at least one processor, each of said reels including a plurality of symbols;
a plurality of different paylines associated with the reels, the plurality of different paylines including a first payline, each of the paylines being associated with a different number;

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a plurality of different winning symbol combinations adapted to occur on said paylines; and

a plurality of different predetermined modifiers including a first predetermined modifier, each of said different predetermined modifiers being used with a different one of said paylines, wherein the value of each of the plurality of different predetermined modifiers is based on the number of said payline and is determined independent of each of the plurality of different winning symbol combinations, and wherein the first predetermined modifier is the same for each play of a game and is being used with the first payline for each play of the game;

wherein the at least one processor is programmed for each play of the game to:

- (a) activate said reels,
- (b) enable a player to wager on a quantity of the paylines,
- (c) determine whether any of the plurality of different winning symbol combinations occur on any of the paylines, and
- (d) provide at least one outcome to the player when at least one of the winning symbol combinations occurs on any of the wagered-on paylines, wherein, for each of any winning symbol combinations which occurs on one of the wagered-on paylines, the at least one outcome is based on an award associated with said winning symbol combination and is also based on the predetermined modifier being used with the wagered-on payline on which said winning symbol combination occurs.

Claim 56 (currently amended): A method for operating a gaming device, said method comprising:

causing a processor to operate with a display device to:

- (a) provide a game; and

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(b) display a plurality of reels and a plurality of different paylines including a first payline to a player, each of said reels including a plurality of symbols, wherein said paylines are associated with said reels, wherein each payline is associated with a different number, and wherein a different predetermined modifier is being used with each of said paylines, said predetermined modifier having a value based on the number of said payline the modifier is being used with and determined independent of each of a plurality of different winning symbol combinations, the predetermined modifiers including a first predetermined modifier, the first predetermined modifier being the same for each play of the game and being used with the first payline for each play of the game; and causing the processor to operate with the display device and an input device, for each play of the game, to:

- (i) activate the reels,
- (ii) enable the player to wager on a quantity of the paylines,
- (iii) determine whether any of the plurality of different winning symbol combinations occur on any of the wagered-on paylines, and
- (iv) provide an outcome to the player when at least one of the winning symbol combinations occurs on any of the wagered-on paylines, wherein, for each of any winning symbol combinations which occurs, the outcome is based on an award associated with said winning symbol combination and is also based on the predetermined modifier being used with said wagered-on payline on which said winning symbol combination occurs.

Claim 57 (previously presented): The method of Claim 56, which includes operating the gaming device through a data network.

Claim 58 (previously presented): The method of Claim 57, wherein the data network is an internet.

Claim 59 (currently amended): The gaming device of Claim 1, wherein the value of each of said different predetermined modifiers is the same for each play of the game and wherein each of the different predetermined modifiers is respectively being used with a same one of the paylines for each play of the game.

Claim 60 (currently amended): The gaming device of Claim 13, wherein the value of each of the different predetermined multipliers is the same for each play of the game and wherein each of the different predetermined multipliers is respectively being used with a same one of the paylines for each play of the game.

Claim 61 (currently amended): The method of Claim 25, wherein the value of each of the predetermined modifiers is the same for each play of the game and wherein each of the predetermined modifiers is respectively being used with a same one of the paylines for each play of the game.

Claim 62 (currently amended): The method of Claim 38, wherein the value of each of the different predetermined multipliers is the same for each play of the game and wherein each of the predetermined modifiers is respectively being used with a same one of the paylines for each play of the game.

Claim 63 (currently amended): The gaming device of Claim 51, wherein the value of each of the plurality of different predetermined modifiers is the same for each of a plurality of plays of the game and wherein each of the predetermined modifiers is respectively being used with a same one of the paylines for each play of the game.

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Claim 64 (currently amended): The method of Claim 52, wherein the value of the value of each of the plurality of different predetermined modifiers is the same for each activation of the plurality of reels and wherein each of the predetermined modifiers is respectively being used with a same one of the paylines for each activation of the reels.

Claim 65 (currently amended): The gaming device of Claim 55, wherein the value of each of the plurality of different predetermined modifiers is the same for each play of the game and wherein each of the predetermined modifiers is respectively being used with a same one of the paylines for each play of the game.

Claim 66 (currently amended): The method of Claim 56, wherein the value of the different predetermined modifier being used with each of the paylines is the same for each play of the game and wherein each predetermined modifier is respectively being used with a same one of the paylines for each play of the game.

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art of record does not teach the concept of a plurality of modifiers, each modifier being used with a different one of said paylines, and using a predetermined modifier with a specific payline for each play of the game, and that modifier being determined independent of each of the plurality of different winning symbol combinations. Specifically, Claim 1 recites "each of said different predetermined modifiers being used with a different one of said paylines and having a value determined independent of each of the plurality of different winning symbol combinations, wherein the first predetermined modifier is the

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same for each play of a game and is being used with the first payline for each play of the game", claim 13 recites "each of said different predetermined multipliers having a value determined independent of each of the plurality of different winning symbol combinations and being used with a different one of said paylines, wherein the first predetermined multiplier is the same for each play of a game and is being used with the first payline for each play of the game", claim 25 recites "wherein a different predetermined modifier is being used with each of said different paylines, each of the predetermined modifiers having a value determined independent of each of the plurality of different winning symbol combinations, the predetermined modifiers including a first predetermined modifier, wherein the first predetermined modifier is the same for each play of the game and is being used with the first payline for each play of the game", claim 38 recites "wherein said paylines are associated with said reels, and wherein a different predetermined multiplier is being used with each of said different paylines, the different predetermined multipliers each having a value determined independent of each of the plurality of different winning symbol combinations and including a first multiplier, and wherein the first predetermined multiplier is the same for each play of the game and is being used with the first payline for each play of the game", claim 51 recites "each of said different predetermined modifiers being used with a different one of said paylines, wherein the value of each of the plurality of different predetermined modifiers is based on the number of said payline which the modifier is being used with and is determined independent of each of the plurality of different winning symbol combination",

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claim 52 recites "wherein a different predetermined modifier is being used with each of said paylines, the value of each of the plurality of different predetermined modifiers being based on the number of said payline and being determined independently from each of a plurality of different winning symbol combinations", claim 55 recites "each of said different predetermined modifiers being used with a different one of said paylines, wherein the value of each of the plurality of different predetermined modifiers is based on the number of said payline and is determined independent of each of the plurality of different winning symbol combinations, and wherein the first predetermined modifier is the same for each play of a game and is being used with the first payline for each play of the game", claim 56 recites "wherein each payline is associated with a different number, and wherein a different predetermined modifier is being used with each of said paylines, said predetermined modifier having a value based on the number of said payline the modifier is being used with and determined independent of each of a plurality of different winning symbol combinations, the predetermined modifiers including a first predetermined modifier, the first predetermined modifier being the same for each play of the game and being used with the first payline for each play of the game."

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to THOMAS H. HENRY whose telephone number is (571)270-3905. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9 AM - 4 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dmitry Suhol can be reached on 571-272-4430. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3714

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